GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:195
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2002
NATIONAL WATER POLICY
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Policy 2002 adopted bythe Union Government provides a general directive on need for participation of private sector;

(b) if so, whether experts which gathered at seminar on water issues in Chennai observed that policy-makers had failed to provide the right climate for the involvement of private sector;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government has considered the suggestions made in the seminar;

(d) if so, whether any framework to enable the private sector participation has been formulated; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) The National Water Policy, 2002 provides for private sector participation in planning, development and management of water resources. The para 13 of the Policy reads: "Private sector participation should be encouraged in planning, development and management of water resources projects for diverse uses, wherever feasible. Private sector participation may help in introducing innovative ideas, generating financial resources and introducing corporate management and improving service efficiency and accountability to users. Depending upon the specific situations, various combinations of private sector participation, in building, owing, operating, leasing and transferring of water resources facilities, may be considered".

(b) & (c) The Ministry of Water Resources is not aware of any such seminar held at Chennai on water issues which made observations as stated in the question.

(d) & (e) Water being a state subject, schemes are planned, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. Framework for participation of the private sector has to be put in place by the State Governments, if they desire to encourage private sector participation in water resources development and management.